

WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. A method of dynamically configuring a cardinality of keyword attributes having executable instructions, comprising the steps of:

receiving a table having a table definition comprising an

5 identification field, a keyword field, and a keyword value field;

inserting a first value into the table wherein the first value is part of the keyword value field and associated with a first keyword which is part of the keyword field;

10 inserting a second value into the table wherein the second value is part of the keyword value field and associated with the first keyword; and associating a first identification which is part of the identification field with the first keyword, the first value, and the second value.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

15 ensuring the table definition remains unchanged after the insertions into the table.

3. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

20 establishing a first row of the table to house the first identification, the first keyword, and the first value; and

establishing a second row of the table to house the first identification, the first keyword, and the second value.

4. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

25 creating a composite table key from the identification field, the keyword field, and the keyword value field.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the fields of the table are operable to be searched.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the first value is not equal to
5 the second value.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein a cardinality between the keyword field and the keyword value field is a one-to-many relationship.

10 8. A method of expanding a table definition without modifying the table definition having executable instructions, comprising the steps of:
receiving a table definition having an identification field, a keyword field, and a keyword value field; and
associating a first value and a second value of the keyword value
15 field with a first keyword of the keyword field.

9. The method of claim 8, further comprising the steps of:
creating a first table entry in a table defined by the table definition for the first keyword and the first value; and
20 creating a second table entry in the table defined by the table definition for the first keyword and the second value.

10. The method of claim 8, further comprising the steps of:
creating a composite key using each field of the table definition
25 wherein the key is operable to access a table associated with the table definition.

11. The method of claim 8, further comprising the steps of:
creating a first and second table from the table definition;
inserting a first identification, the first keyword, and the first value
into the first table;

5 inserting the first identification, the first keyword, and the first value
into the second table; and

inserting the first identification, the first keyword, and the second
value into the second table.

10 12. The method of claim 11, further comprising the steps of:
receiving a search comprising the first identification, the first
keyword and the second value;
searching the first table to acquire a first location; and
searching the second table beginning at the first location within the second
15 table until the second value is located.

13. The method of claim 12, further comprising the steps of:
returning a row of the second table wherein the second value is
housed.

20 14. The method of claim 13, wherein searching the first table
improves access into the second table to retrieve the row.

15. The method of claim 8, further comprising the steps of:
25 creating a first and a second row of a table to house the first and the
second values, respectively, each row housing the first identification and
the first keyword.

16. A method of expanding a keyword by permitting one or more keyword values to be associated with each keyword having executable instructions, comprising the steps of:

5 receiving a table having an identification field, a keyword field, and a keyword value field; and

receiving a first keyword associated with the keyword field and having a first value and a second value, each value associated with the keyword value field.

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17. The method of claim 16, further comprising the steps of:
creating a key to access the table wherein the key is comprised of the identification field, the keyword field, and the keyword value field.

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18. The method of claim 17, further comprising the steps of:
searching a second table with the key to acquire a location within the table to being a search.

19. The method of claim 17, wherein a performance of the search
20 of the table is improved using the location and the key.

20. The method of claim 19, further comprising the steps of:
returning a row associated with the table when the key is found within the table.

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